

## Judges 1: Failure to Finish the Job

Getting started: Describe a time when a failure to address a small problem turned into a much bigger problem later on.

**Read vv. 1-20****Judah takes its territory, almost**

1. Which tribe did God instruct to go up first to take possession of their territory? Who did this tribe ask to join them in the conquest? What did the first tribe promise as compensation? (vv. 1-3)
2. What king did Judah encounter at Bezek? (v. 5) How did they show that they had subdued him? How was this treatment just? What else happened to him in Jerusalem? (vv. 4-7)
3. What two cities in the hill country did Judah pursue after setting Jerusalem ablaze? What did Caleb promise in exchange for help in taking a city? Who rose to the challenge and helped Caleb secure victory? (vv. 8-15) To what extent should we help one another overcome challenges/obstacles? (c.f. Gal. 6:2, 10)
4. Though Judah aided his brother Simeon in taking several cities, what was Judah unable to do? What reason is given for this failure? How is Caleb different from the rest of his tribe? (vv. 16-20).

**Read vv. 21-36****Failures to Finish the Job**

5. What city and people posed and ongoing problem for the Benjamites? (v. 21)
6. What did the sons of Joseph use to their advantage in the taking of Bethel? How did they repay the kindness? What happened to the rest of the city? (vv. 22-26).
7. What did Israel do when the enemy grew strong? (vv. 30, 33, 35) What problem did their failure to drive out the enemy create? (Numbers 33:52, 55-56)
8. Name some areas in which Christian men are inclined to put up with evil influences rather than drive them out. What danger does their presence pose to your soul? (2 Pet. 2:8-9) What help is available to you? (1 Corinthians 10:13)

**Going Deeper**

9. As long as we live on the earth, the presence of sin poses a problem to every Christian. What should Christian men be doing to drive out the sin that so easily ensnares us? Look up these verses and give an answer for each one.

Matthew 5:29-30

Hebrews 4:15-16

Hebrews 12:1

Hebrews 12:3-4

Galatians 6:1